



State Library of Massachusetts - Special Collections Department

# Ms. Coll. 13

## Albert Bushnell Hart Papers, 1911-1941: Guide

### COLLECTION SUMMARY

**Creator:** Hart, Albert Bushnell, 1854-1943.

**Call Number:** Ms. Coll. 13

**Extent:** 5 boxes (5 linear feet)

**Preferred Citation Style:** *Folder Title, Box Number #.* Albert Bushnell Hart Papers. State Library of Massachusetts Special Collections.

**Provenance:** Donation from Dr. Hart on February 22, 1937.

**About This Finding Aid:** Description based on DACS.

**Processed by:** Finding aid prepared by Mary Elizabeth Woodruff, December, 1996. Updated by Abigail Cramer, March, 2012.

**Abstract:** This collection documents the George Washington Bicentennial Commission and Alfred Bushnell Hart's involvement with the Commission as well as Alfred Bushnell Hart's personal writings.

### SCOPE AND CONTENT

Although there is some primary material, the majority of the papers in the collection are secondary source material. The compilation of information about George Washington and his travels throughout Massachusetts is of particular interest.

The papers in this collection are divided into two series. Series I: The George Washington Bicentennial Commission Papers includes Hart's correspondence with respect to the activities of the Commission, arranged by date. It also includes selected papers from the U.S. and Massachusetts Commissions and information about specific activities from the other state and regional committees. The committee papers are arranged with the national commission first, followed by the commissions of Massachusetts and other states. Files are arranged alphabetically with committee publications at the end.

The materials in Series II: Speeches, Writings and Notes are arranged using Hart's original subject headings and have only been changed if extremely vague or misleading. The first group of material in this series composed of Hart's speeches and writings and is arranged alphabetically by title or subject. The remainder contains typed copies of Hart's many notes about Washington's life. These notes come from a variety of sources and are generally undated. Bibliographic information is noted in the margins. They are arranged with Boston and Cambridge at the beginning, followed by other Massachusetts cities and towns. The rest of the notes focus on Washington's career (arranged chronologically), his private life, and political and social events in his lifetime. Other source materials used by Hart are listed at the end.

## BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Albert Bushnell Hart was born on July 1, 1854. He graduated from Harvard College in 1880 and received his Ph.D. from the University of Freiburg in Baden, Germany in 1883. He returned to the United States and became an instructor of History at Harvard University. During his career, Hart wrote and edited over eighty books, including The American Nation, a twenty-eight volume history of the United States, and The Commonwealth History of Massachusetts, a five volume history. He also edited many yearbooks and encyclopedias. In 1918, when Hart was suspected of espionage, President Theodore Roosevelt wrote to Hart and assured him that "In all the United States there has been no more single minded, aggressively loyal, and deeply practical American than you, throughout your life, have proven to be" (*New York Times*, July 7, 1943). Hart taught at Harvard for forty-three years and retired in 1926 with the title Professor Emeritus of the Science of Government.

Following his retirement, Dr. Hart began his work with the U.S. Washington Bicentennial Commission for the Celebration of the Two Hundredth Anniversary of the Birthday of George Washington, as it was initially called. The Commission was created on February 22, 1927. Hart was present for President Calvin Coolidge's speech in the House of Representatives which

outlined the plans for the U.S. Commission which would sponsor the celebration. Individual states were encouraged to create their own activities for the period of the celebration which lasted from February 22, 1932, through Thanksgiving Day, November 24, 1932. The states were instructed that while "ceremonies on February 22 should be especially elaborate and impressive ... arrangement should be made for public gathering, pageants, plays, processions, music festivals, tableaux, and other events at various times" (Document from U.S. Washington Commission Papers "Every State, City and Town to Participate ... "). Hart was also was Chairman of the Massachusetts Washington Commission and worked with other state and regional committees.

Dr. Hart continued his study and writing until his death on June 16, 1943. He was described in his obituary as a "historian, forecaster of world events and an authority on George Washington" (*New York Times*, July 17, 1943).

## **ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

### ***Arrangement***

The papers are arranged in two series as follows:

*Series I: George Washington Bicentennial Commission Papers, 1911-1941*

*Series II: Speeches, Writings, and Notes, 1926-1936*

### ***Conditions Governing Access***

This collection is open for research during the Special Collections Department's regular hours.

### ***Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use***

Copyright restrictions may apply. Requests for permission to publish material from this collection should be discussed with Special Collections staff.

### ***Languages and Scripts***

The materials in this collection are entirely in English.

### ***Immediate Source of Acquisition***

Dr. Hart donated the papers in this collection to the State Library on February 22, 1937.

## ***Series Description and Container List***

### **Series I: George Washington Bicentennial Commission Papers, 1911-1941.**

#### ***Scope and Content***

This series includes Hart's correspondence related to the activities of the Commission. It also includes selected papers from the U.S. and Massachusetts Commissions and information about specific activities from the other state and regional committees.

#### ***Arrangement***

Correspondence is arranged by date. The committee papers are arranged with the federal commission first, followed by the commissions of Massachusetts and other states. Files are arranged alphabetically with committee publications at the end.

<b>Box #</b>	<b>Folder #</b>	<b>Folder Title</b>	<b>Date</b>
1	1	Partial index to correspondence of A.B. Hart	undated
1	2-27	Correspondence (26 folders)	undated, 1911, 1924-1936, 1939, 1941
		<b>Federal Commission</b>	
1	28	Notes and memoranda	1930-1932
1	29	Field Secretary	1924-1926
1	30-31	Invitations and programs (2 folders)	undated, 1925- 1932
1	32	Addresses by President Coolidge	1925, 1927
1	33	Prize essay, "Washington's Character"	1932
1	34	Address by James R. Moore, winner of the National Biographic Oratorical Contest, "Washington as a Nation Builder"	1932
1	35	Checklist of pamphlets prepared by Hart	undated
1	36-39	Pamphlets (4 folders)	undated
1	40	Newspaper articles	undated, 1927- 1932

		<b>Massachusetts Commission</b>	
1	42	Drafts	1932
1	43	Highway program	1932
1	44	Membership	1931
1	45	Proclamation by Gov. Ely	1932
1	46	Status and needs	1931-1932
2	47	Town planning	1931-1932
2	48	Pamphlets	1932
2	49-50	Pamphlets – drafts (2 folders)	undated
		<b>Events</b>	
2	51	Washington D.C.	undated
2	52	Illinois, Lafayette Celebration	1932
2	53	New Hampshire, Judge Page manuscript	undated
2	54	New York, Proposed plan	1929-1932
2	55	Ohio, Washington's first campaign	1931-1932
2	56	Pennsylvania, Lacock's plan of walking tour	1932
2	57	South and West Region, Washington Atlas	1931
		<b>Publications</b>	
2	58	Book	1929
2	59-60	General (2 folders)	1917, 1922-1931
2	61-62	Pamphlets (2 folders)	undated, 1932-1933
2	63	Related Historical Publications	undated, 1926-1934
2	64	Pageants	1927-1932

## Series II: Speeches, Writings, and Notes, 1926-1936.

### *Scope and Content*

This series is composed of Hart's speeches and writings and contains typed copies of Hart's many notes about Washington's life. These notes come from a variety of sources and are generally undated. Bibliographic information is noted in the margins. The rest of the notes focus on Washington's career (arranged chronologically), his private life, and political and social events in his lifetime. Other source materials used by Hart are listed at the end.

### *Arrangement*

Materials in this series are arranged using Hart's original subject headings and have only been changed if extremely vague or misleading. Materials are arranged alphabetically by title or subject. Notes about Washington's life are arranged with Boston and Cambridge at the beginning, followed by other Massachusetts cities and towns.

Box #	Folder #	Folder Title	Date
		<b>Speeches and Writings</b>	
2	65	Cosmos Club Dinner	1931
2	66	Fort Necessity Address	1932
2	67	George Washington in Every School	1931
2	68	George Washington, the Reader's Problem	undated
2	69	George Washington Year by Year	undated
2	70	Haym Salomon	undated
2	71	Honor to George Washington	undated
2	72	Houdon Address	undated
2	73	The Huguenots	1932
2	74	Image of George Washington	1926
2	75	Massachusetts Historical Society	1926
2	76	New Brunswick Address	undated
2	77	Presentation of Bust	undated

2	78	Reading with a Purpose	1927
2	79	Richmond Address	1931
2	80	Swedish Americanism	1929
2	81	Todd Lectures	1932
2	82	Washington and Saratoga Address	1927-1928
2	83	Washington as a Bostonian	1932
2	84	Washington as a Leader	1932
2	85	Washington as a 20 <sup>th</sup> Century Man	1932
2	86	Washington as an Internationalist	1932
2	87	Washington in the West	1932
2	88	Washington the Businessman	1936
2	89	Washington to Order	1927
2	90	Washington's Military Reputation	1935
2	91	The Young Colonel from Virginia	undated
		<b>Notes</b>	
2	92	Washington in Boston (outline)	undated
2	93	Washington in Boston	undated
2	94	Washington in Boston in 1756 (Castle/Col. John Erving/Cromwell's Head/Dagworth Controversy)	undated
2	95	Washington in Boston in 1756 (Gov. Shirley/Hewes House/King's Chapel/Old State House/Portrait/Province House/Streets)	undated
2	96	Washington in Boston in 1775-1776 (Americans Imprisoned/Attack/Barracks/Besieged/Bombardment)	undated
2	97	Washington in Boston in 1775-1776 (Boston Islands/Boston Neck)	undated
2	98	Washington in Boston in 1775-1776 (British in	undated

		Boston/Building/Bunch of Grapes Tavern)	
2	99	Washington in Boston in 1775-1776 (Civilians/Common/Continental Congress Medal/Copp' s Hill/Depredations-Destruction/Dorchester Heights)	undated
2	100-101	Washington in Boston in 1775-1776 (Evacuation) (2 folders)	undated
2	102	Washington in Boston in 1775-1776 (Flag/Fortification/Fort Hill/General Court/Inhabitants sent away)	undated
2	103	Washington in Boston in 1775-1776 (Newspapers accounts/Nooks Hill/Selectmen/Smallpox/Washington Street/Miscellaneous - ABH)	undated
2	104	Washington in Boston in 1789 (Aides/Assembly-Concert Hall/Bridges/Busts/Churches)	undated
2	105	Washington in Boston in 1789 (Coach and horses/Departure/Description of town/Description of Washington/Equipage/Eye Witness)	undated
2	106	Washington in Boston in 1789 (John Hancock/Hancock's Hospitality)	undated
2	107	Washington in Boston in 1789 (Ingersol House/Newspaper accounts/Oratorio)	undated
2	108	Washington in Boston in 1789 (Ovation)	undated
2	109	Washington in Boston in 1789 (Places/Reception: General Court/Society of the Cincinnati/Streets)	undated
2	110	Washington in Boston in 1789 (Teeth/Uniform/Visits/Washington Portraits)	undated
2	111	Washington in Cambridge in 1775-1776 (Anecdote/Army/Army Departure)	undated
2	112	Washington in Cambridge in 1775-1776 (Army clothing/Army songs/Arrival/Artillery/Barracks/Camp equipage/Chaplains)	undated



2	113	Washington in Cambridge in 1775-1776 (Churches)	undated
2	114	Washington in Cambridge in 1775-1776 (Civilian contemporaries/Coach/Commander in Chief)	undated
2	115	Washington in Cambridge in 1775-1776 (Commander in Chief - continued)	undated
2	116	Washington in Cambridge in 1775-1776 (Committee of Congress/Diaries/Elm/Evacuation)	undated
2	117	Washington in Cambridge in 1775-1776 (Expedition of Quebec/Expenses/Fast Day/Ferry/Flags)	undated
3	118	Washington in Cambridge, 1775-1776 (Fortifications/Forts-General accounts/Forts-Lechmere Point)	undated
3	119	Washington in Cambridge in 1775-1776 (Harvard College)	undated
3	120	Washington in Cambridge, 1775-1776 (Historic sights/Hospitals/Indians)	undated
3	121	Washington in Cambridge, 1775-1776 (Military associates/Military companions)	undated
3	122	Washington in Cambridge, 1775-1776 (Military events/Military family/Military importance of Cambridge/Mrs. Washington/Naval operations/Places named for Washington)	undated
3	123	Washington in Cambridge, 1775-1776 (Quarters)	undated
3	124	Washington in Cambridge, 1775-1776 (Servants/Social Life/Surgeons/Taverns/Thanksgiving/Uniform)	undated
3	125	Washington in Cambridge, 1775-1776 (Miscellaneous - includes a note that original order of folder is intact)	undated
3	126	Washington in Cambridge, 1789 (Arrival/Bridges)	undated
3	127	Washington in MA (Amesbury/Agawam/Andover/Ashburnham/Arlington/Attleboro)	undated
3	128	Washington in MA (Belchertown/Belmont/Beverly/	undated

		Boxwood)	
3	129	Washington in MA (Brookfield! Brookline/Canton/ Charlestown/Chelmsford/Chelsea)	undated
3	130	Washington in MA (Danvers/Dartmouth/Dedham/ Dorchester/Douglas/Dudley)	undated
3	131	Washington in MA (Everett/Framingham/Gloucester/ Grafton/Hadley/Haverhill/Holliston/Hull/Ipswich)	undated
3	132	Washington in MA (Leicester/Lexington/Littleton/ Lunenburg/Lynn)	undated
3	133	Washington in MA (Malden/Marblehead/Marlboro)	undated
3	134	Washington in MA (Medford/Mendon/Milford/ Milton/Nantasket)	undated
3	135	Washington in MA (Natick/Needham/Newburyport/ Newton/North Wilbraham/Northborough/Northampton)	undated
3	136	Washington in MA (Oxford/Palmer/Quincy/ Rowley/Roxbury)	undated
3	137	Washington in MA (Salem/Salisbury/Saugus/ Seabrook/Sherburn/Shrewsbury/Sudbury)	undated
3	138	Washington in MA (Somerville)	undated
3	139	Washington in MA (Spencer/Springfield/Swampscott)	undated
3	140	Washington in MA (Walpole/Waltham/Warren/ Washington/Watertown)	undated
3	141	Washington in MA (Wayland/Wenham/Westfield/ Westminster/Weston/Weymouth)	undated
3	142	Washington in MA (Worcester/Wrentham/Uxbridge)	undated
3	143	Washington's Journeys to Massachusetts	undated
3	144	Washington in New England, Maps	undated
3	145	Washington in Connecticut	undated
3	146	Washington in New Hampshire	undated

3	147	Washington in New Jersey	undated
4	148	Washington in Rhode Island	undated
4	149	Washington in Pennsylvania	undated
4	150	Washington in Pennsylvania, Maps	undated
4	151	Washington Abroad	undated
4	152	Military Career, Blue Ridge Region in 1747	undated
4	153	Military Career, Portage Routes in 1748-1753	undated
4	154-156	Military Career, Expeditions of 1753 (3 folders)	undated
4	157	Military Career, Journals of 1754	undated
4	158	Military Career, Fort Necessity in 1754	undated
4	159	Military Career, Fort Necessity - Negotiations in 1754	undated
4	160	Military Career, Return of French to Ohio in 1754	undated
4	161-165	Military Career, Expedition of 1754 (5 folders)	undated
4	166	Military Career, Expedition of 1754, Fort Necessity	undated
4	167	Military Career, Expedition of 1754, Jumonville	undated
4	168	Military Career, Travel to the Mississippi River	undated
4	169	Military Career, Mohawk Valley trip in 1783	undated
4	170	Military Career, Unknown Battle of German Flates in 1783 (notes on Washington's possible connection)	undated
4	171-172	Military Career, Western Trip in 1785 (2 folders)	undated
4	173-174	Debates on Federal Constitution (2 folders)	undated
4	176-178	Washington and Lafayette, Correspondence from 1777- 1797 (3 folders)	undated
4	179	Washington and Lafayette, Memoirs of 1775-1779	undated
4	180	Washington and Lafayette, Memoirs of 1780-1789	undated
4	181-186	Washington and Lafayette, General notes for 1775-1799 (6	undated

		folders)	
4	187	Washington and Lafayette, General notes for 1800-1918(?) (with gaps and undated)	undated
4	188-189	Personal Life, Washington's Social Life (2 folders)	undated
4	190	Personal Life, Washington and Family	undated
4	191-194	Personal Life, Washington and Sally Fairfax (4 folders)	undated
4	195	Personal Life, Washington Diaries of 1770	undated
4	196	Personal Life, Washington's comments on the war	undated
4	197	Personal Life, Washington's words of wisdom	undated
5	198	Personal Life, Washington's diaries	undated
5	199	Personal Life, Washington's writings	undated
5	200	Genealogy, New Light on G.W. Genealogy, outline	undated
5	201	Genealogy, "An Inquiry into the Origin and Early History of the Washington History" by S.H. Lee (typescript)	undated
5	202	Genealogy, Family Branches (Ball/Butler/Digges)	undated
5	203	Genealogy, Family Branches (Kitson/Lawrence/Lee/ LeGentyll/Light/Lincoln/Morville/Newce)	undated
5	204	Genealogy, Family Branches (Pape/Pargiter/Pope/ Sandys/Sandford/Strickland/Turgden/Wakelyn/Warner)	undated
5	205-206	Genealogy, Washington Line (2 folders)	undated
5	207	Genealogy, Diagram of Family Tree	undated
5	208	Genealogy, Charts – Washington/Pargiter/Durham/ Northumberland	undated
5	209	Genealogy, Table	undated
5	210	Genealogy, Miscellaneous - Canon Solloway/Wickamford Church/Etymology of Washington name/Bibliography of Ancestry/Washington Pedigree	undated
5	211	Genealogy, Publications by other authors	undated

5	212	Genealogy, Washington Genealogy catalog	undated
5	213	Washington's Character, Rupert Hugh's III Opinion of Washington	undated
5	214	Washington's Character, Washington as a man of power/public speaker/publicist/Washington and religion/Washington and secretaries	undated
5	215	Washington's Character, general notes	undated
5	216	Washington's Educational Inheritance	undated
5	217	First Celebration of Washington's Birthday	undated
5	218	History of Washington	undated
5	219	W.E. Woodward on Washington as a Military Man	undated
5	220	Washington as a Literary Man	undated
5	221	Washington as a Business Man	undated
5	222	Colonial History, Education in Washington's Time	undated
5	223	Colonial History, Foreign Affairs in Washington's Time	undated
5	224	Colonial History, Immigration in Washington's Time (Hart Bibliography)	undated
5	225-226	Colonial History, Immigration, general notes (2 folders)	undated
5	227	Colonial History, Committee on Linguistic and National Statistics in past populations of the U.S.	undated
5	228-229	Colonial History, African Americans (2 folders)	undated
5	230	Colonial History, Canadians	undated
5	231	Colonial History, Dutch	undated
5	232	Colonial History, English	undated
5	233	Colonial History, French	undated
5	234	Colonial History, German	undated
5	235	Colonial History, Huguenots	undated

5	236	Colonial History, Jewish	undated
5	237	Colonial History, Loyalists	undated
5	238	Colonial History, Native Americans	undated
5	239	Colonial History, Polish	undated
5	240	Colonial History, Scandinavians	undated
5	241	Colonial History, Scottish	undated
5	242	Colonial History, Swedish	undated
5	243	Colonial History, Welsh	undated
5	244	Colonial History, Racial Conditions in Colonial America	undated
5	245	Colonial History, Racial Matters during Revolution, Pamphlet # 15	undated
5	246	Colonial History, Racial Matters during Revolution	undated
5	247	Colonial History, Races in the Revolutionary War, text and notes	undated
5	248	Colonial History, Revolutionary War Statistics	undated
5	249	Colonial History, Foreign Officers in Revolution	undated
5	250	Colonial History, Foreign Volunteers in Revolution	undated
5	251-252	Colonial History, French Officers in Revolution (2 folders)	undated
5	253	Colonial History, French Army in Revolution	undated
5	254-255	Colonial History, Irish in Revolution (2 folders)	undated
5	256	<u>Celebrating a 300th Anniversary: Massachusetts Bay Tercentenary</u>	undated
5	257	Maps of Battlefields from printed material with Hart notes	undated
5	258	Photographs and drawings from printed material with Hart notes	undated
5	259	Photographs from trip to England (Washington genealogy), miscellaneous and/or unidentified	undated

5	260	Miscellaneous, document in German (auction list?), document that refers to letter of Barons to Pope	undated
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